

## **The Sermon on the Plain**

Luke 6:17 – 7:1

by Don Falkos

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Jesus addressed the huge crowd gathered on the plain:

Love your enemies and pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, let them slap the other cheek too. If someone sues you for your shirt, give up your cloak as well. When people ask you for something, give it to them. If they take what's yours, let them keep it. Treat others the same way you would want them to treat you.

If you only love people who are going to love you back, there's nothing special about that. If you're only kind to people who are kind to you, there's nothing special about that. You need to love your enemies and be kind to them. You need to give to them without expecting to be paid back. God will reward you.

Your Father in heaven is compassionate. You need to be compassionate.

Be careful not to judge or condemn others. God will treat you exactly the same way you treat them. Instead, you ought to give generously to others. Then God will give generously to you.

Don't bother calling me, "Lord, Lord", if you're not going to do what I tell you to do? Continue to disregard what I say, and you'll be like the man who built his house on sand. When a storm came and the winds blew, his house was destroyed. But if you build your house on the rock-solid foundation of my teachings, you'll be able to stand firm against the storms of life.

When Jesus had finished speaking, he left that place and went to Capernaum.